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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/604,693	06/27/2000	Markus Pompejus	BGI-130CP	4996

959 7590 12/16/2002

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD
28 STATE STREET
BOSTON, MA 02109

EXAMINER

HUTSON, RICHARD G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1652

DATE MAILED: 12/16/2002

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/604,693

Applicant(s)

POMPEJUS ET AL.

Examiner

Richard G Hutson

Art Unit

1652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-17, 36 and 38, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector and host cell comprising said nucleic acid molecule and method of expressing said nucleic acid molecule, host cell, and virus, classified in class 435, subclass 183.
- II. Claim 18-24, drawn to an isolated RRP polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 183.
- III. Claims 25-34, drawn to a method for producing a fine chemical, classified in class 435, subclass 41.
- IV. Claims 35, drawn to a method for diagnosing the presence or activity of *Corynebacterium diphtherae*, classified in class 435, subclass 6.
- V. Claim 37, drawn to a host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule selected from Appendix A, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises one or more modifications from the sequence set forth in Appendix A, classified in Class 435, subclass 252.3.

For each of inventions I-V above, restriction to one of the inventions of the nucleic acid molecules set forth in Appendix A, or the polypeptides in Appendix B, is also required under 35 USC 121. Therefore, election is required of one of inventions I-V

and one of the inventions of the nucleic acid molecules set forth in Appendix A, or the polypeptides in Appendix B.

Claims 1, 2, 18, 19 link(s) the inventions corresponding with those nucleic acid and polypeptide molecules listed in appendices A and B. The restriction requirement among the linked inventions is subject to the nonallowance of the linking claim(s); claims 1, 2, 18, 19. Upon the allowance of the linking claim(s), the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions shall be withdrawn and any claim(s) depending from or otherwise including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) will be entitled to examination in the instant application. Applicant(s) are advised that if any such claim(s) depending from or including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) is/are presented in a continuation or divisional application, the claims of the continuation or divisional application may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Where a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. *In re Ziegler*, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

The inventions corresponding to those sequences in Appendix A or Appendix B are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions,

Art Unit: 1652

or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions, represent structurally different polypeptides and the polynucleotides encoding them. Therefore, where structural identity is required, such as for hybridization or expression, the different sequences have different effects.

Inventions I, II and V are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the nucleic acid molecule of Group I, and the RRP polypeptide of Group II each comprise a chemically unrelated structure capable of separate manufacture, use and effect and these are structurally distinct from the nucleic acid molecules in the host cell of Group V. The nucleic acid molecule of Group I is comprised of a nucleic acid sequence and the polypeptide of Group II is comprised of amino acid sequence. The nucleic acid molecule has other utility besides encoding protein such as a hybridization probe, and the proteins can be made synthetically. Additionally, the protein can be used to perform specific biological function(s) which are independent of the function(s) of the DNA molecule. The protein has other utility such as for the synthesis of antibodies.

Inventions I and III are related as product and processes of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the nucleic acid

molecule can be used in a materially different process such as one in which the nucleic acid molecule is used to in a hybridization assay.

The polypeptides of Group II and the host cell of Group V are unrelated to the method of Group III as they are neither used nor made by the methods of Group III.

Inventions I and II and invention IV are related as product and processes of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, either of the products of Groups I or II may be used in the method of Group IV, as the method does not stipulate the molecule to be used. Regardless, the nucleic acid molecule of Group I and the polypeptides of Group II can be used in a materially different processes, such as one in which the nucleic acid molecule is used to in a hybridization assay and the polypeptides can be used to synthesize antibodies.

The host cell of Group V is unrelated to the method of Group IV as they are neither used nor made by the method of Group IV.

The methods of Groups III and IV are independent as they comprise different steps, utilize different products and produce different results.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above, have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, and the literature

and sequence searches required for each of the Groups are not required for another of the Groups, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(l).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard G Hutson whose telephone number is (703) 308-0066. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am to 4:00 pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ponnathapu Achutamurthy can be reached on (703) 308-3804. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3014 for regular communications and (703) 305-3014 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Application/Control Number: 09/604,693

Page 7

Art Unit: 1652

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Hutson', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Richard Hutson, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 1652

December 6, 2002